

BMS Language Arts 7

weekly lesson: April 27th-May 1st

Hello 7th grade students and families! This week we are going to continue working with theme. You will need to refer back to your notes from last week to be successful on this assignment. We will be reading parts of the novel *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros and doing some work with theme and figurative language for each chapter. We will also be doing a journal writing project that we will start this week as well. Remember, during distance learning, nothing will be officially graded, but please turn it in to my google classroom or at the school next monday for feedback. The idea here is to use your brains, to maintain and maybe improve your skills even at a distance! If you have any questions or would like more skill building activities, please contact me during my office hours. Enjoy!

Weekly Warm up:

Editing SOCIAL MEDIA GRAMMAR



Correct the spelling, punctuation, and grammar errors in the following social media post.

@SocialMediaSlipUps

4 years of High School are coming to an end, it is such a satisfying feeling knowing the hard work has paid off. The time has flew by so quick! Can you guy's beleive that I will be a University student at dartmouth college next year! wow...

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Approx 16 corrections

Office Hours:

(I will be online to answer any questions!)

Mrs. Hatcher:

Mon - Fri 12-2

Email: madalynh@banks.k12.or.us

I can also do video chats with students if needed.

Online Games/Apps/Resources:

1. <https://www.dictionary.com/>
2. <https://pbskids.org/games/vocabulary/>
3. <https://justbuypassay.com/blog/persuasive-essay-topics>

Answers from Last Week's Exercise:

Check your work! How did you do?

Do you know the definition of **embarrassing**? It is **accidentally** walking **into** your fourth period class instead of your **second** and not **realizing** until 15 minutes after the class **had** started. I wonder why teachers **s** tell my parents **s** I don't pay attention.

embarrassing?: Embarrassing was misspelled. A question was asked, so a question mark was added as end punctuation.

accidentally: Accidentally was misspelled.

into: The preposition *into* is used to indicate movement toward the inside of a place.

second: It is best to write out single digit numbers in this form; There is some debate about this rule.

realizing: Realizing was misspelled.

had started: This is an error in verb tense. The proper usage is *had started* because it expresses the idea that something occurred before another action in the past.

teachers / parents: The plural form of both of these words should be used.

attention. : A period is added at the end of this sentence.

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Theme Practice exercises Possible Answers:

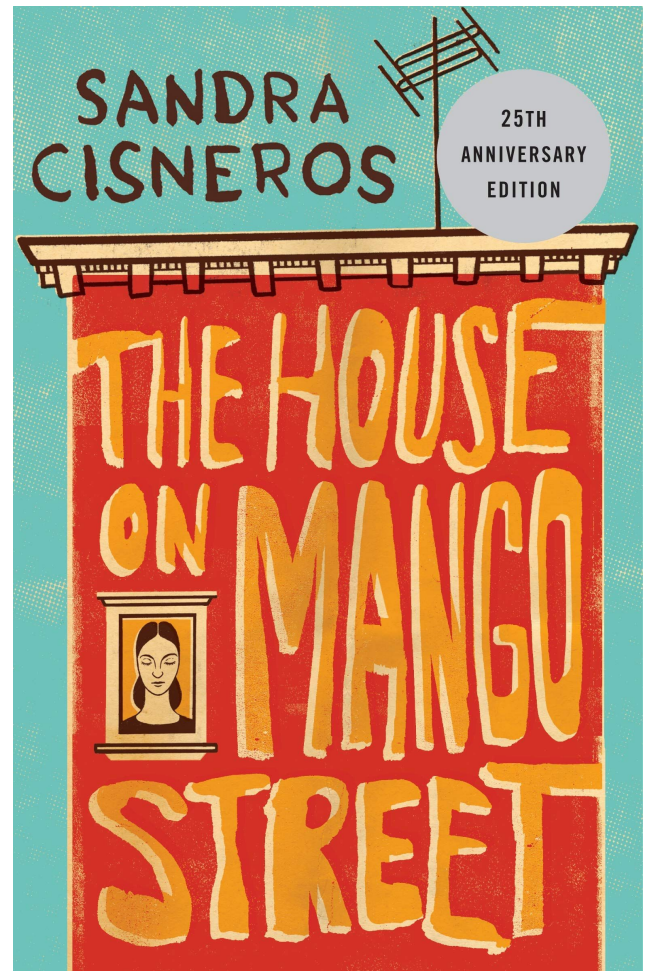
Possible themes for the story "The Artist":

1. Take care of shared resources.
2. Some things will not replenish after they are exhausted.
 - Answers will vary but these should give you an idea

New Learning: See the attached lesson and practice. You should complete one journal entry and then read the story and follow through on the practice on Theme and figurative language.

Introduction to *The House on Mango Street*

Mexican American author Sandra Cisneros's novella *THE HOUSE ON MANGO STREET* is the story of a Latina girl named Esperanza Cordero who grows up on the mean streets of an inner-city neighborhood. Originally published in 1984, the novel enjoyed immediate critical acclaim, winning the **Before Columbus Foundation's American Book Award** in 1985. Now in its 25th year of publication, *The House on Mango Street* has sold over 2 million copies and is required reading in many middle schools, high schools, and universities across the country. (Shmoop.com)



What is *The House on Mango Street* About and Why Should I Care?

Esperanza Cordero is one of the most likable characters you'll ever meet. She's smart, she's funny, she's lonely, and charmingly awkward – she's just like you. OK, so maybe you didn't grow up in an urban barrio in Chicago. But who *hasn't* ever felt ashamed about some part of their identity, whether it's the amount of money their family has, the house they live in, or just being different from the other kids at school? Ever felt embarrassed about wearing the wrong shoes to a party? Meet Esperanza – we think you've got a lot in common.

Our point is that, on nearly every page of *The House on Mango Street*, you'll probably find something that will make you cringe. Or laugh out loud. Or whimper in empathy. It's that kind of book. It's almost impossible not to relate to the sassy, spunky heroine – a budding writer who survives the pain and humiliation of adolescence by writing angsty, heartfelt poetry. (Sound familiar? We wrote embarrassing poetry in our teen years, too. But you'll never find it. Mwahahaha.)

Esperanza is the kind of character that draws attention to the universal experience of being human, and especially to the particularly awkward time of life that we call adolescence. Reading her story helps us to feel more connected with the people around us, because it reminds us that even though we've all had painful or embarrassing experiences, we all have the potential to overcome them. And that's kind of awesome.

How we are using Mango Street: This novel is very special and has an intentional and unique structure that allows the chapters to be read in any order. Each chapter is its own short story called a vignette. These vignettes can stand on their own or be read together as a cohesive story.

We will only be reading a handful of these stories that will allow us to explore the subjects of theme, figurative language, and narrative writing.

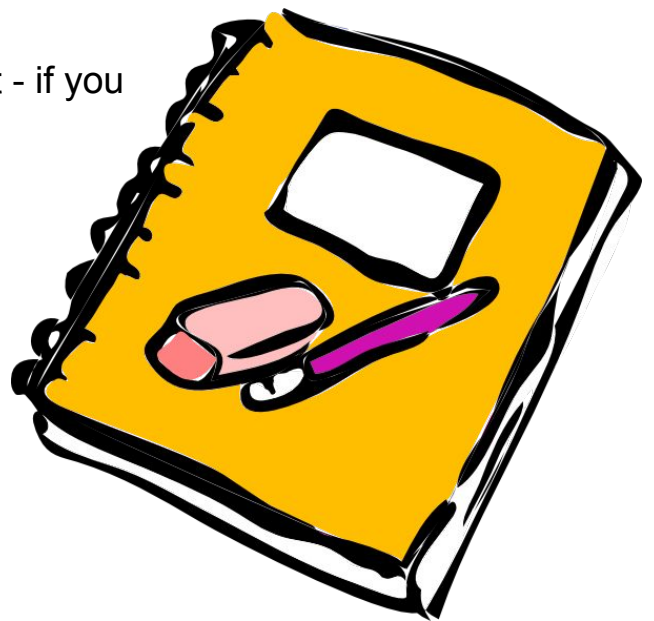
Mango Street Journal Assignment

Over the next several weeks, I want you to complete 1 journal entry per week. You should pick **ONE** of the topics below, set a timer for 5-7 minutes and then write about your topic without stopping. These are free writes, so don't worry about spelling or grammar. The most important thing is to let your ideas flow and get them out on the page. These journals will serve as prewriting to get ideas for your narrative essay. These can be handwritten or typed. Keep track of these entries, we will look back on them before doing our final writing project for the year.

Choose one of the following topics to write about - if you need to adapt the topic a bit - feel free to do so.

Journal #1 Topic Choices:

- Describe your House
- Describe your family
- Write about Your Name



Reading Mango Street Assignment

Read the 1st chapter of the novel called "The House on Mango Street" Then highlight and label 3 examples of figurative language in the writing. Then complete the theme worksheet. This should be familiar to you as it is the same process that we learned last week. Please refer to last week's notes to complete the theme assignment.

The House on Mango Street

By Sandra Cisneros

Chapter One: "The House on Mango Street"

We didn't always live on Mango Street. Before that we lived on Loomis on the third floor, and before that we lived on Keeler. Before Keeler it was Paulina, and before that I can't remember. But what I remember most is moving a lot. Each time it seemed there'd be one more of us. By the time we got to Mango Street we were six—Mama, Papa, Carlos, Kiki, my sister Nenny and me.

The house on Mango Street is ours, and we don't have to pay rent to anybody, or share the yard with the people downstairs, or be careful not to make too much noise, and there isn't a landlord banging on the ceiling with a broom. But even so, it's not the house we'd thought we'd get.

We had to leave the flat on Loomis quick. The water pipes broke and the landlord wouldn't fix them because the house was too old. We had to leave fast. We were using the washroom next door and carrying water over in empty milk gallons. That's why Mama and Papa looked for a house, and that's why we moved into the house on Mango Street, far away, on the other side of town.

They always told us that one day we would move into a house, a real house that would be ours for always so we wouldn't have to move each year. And our house would have running water and pipes that worked. And inside it would have real stairs, not hallway stairs, but stairs inside like the houses on T.V. And we'd have a basement and at least three washrooms so when we took a bath we wouldn't have to tell everybody. Our house would be white with trees around it, a great big yard and grass growing without a fence. This was the house Papa talked about when he held a lottery ticket and this was the house Mama dreamed up in the stories she told us before we went to bed.

But the house on Mango Street is not the way they told it at all. It's small and red with tight steps in front and window so small you'd think they were holding their breath. Bricks are crumbling in places, and the front door is so swollen you have to push hard to get in. There is no front yard, only four little elms the city planted by the curb. Out back is a small garage for the car we don't own yet and a small yard that looks smaller between the two buildings on either side. There are stairs in our house, but they're ordinary hallway stairs, and the house has only one washroom. Everybody has to share a bedroom—Mama and Papa, Carlos and Kiki, me and Nenny.

Once when we were living on Loomis, a nun from my school passed by and saw me playing out front. The laundromat downstairs had been boarded up because it had been robbed two days before and the owner had painted on the wood YES WE'RE OPEN so as not to lose business.

Where do you live? She asked.

There, I said pointing up to the third floor.

You live *there*?

There. I had to look to where she pointed—the third floor, the paint peeling, wooden bars Papa had nailed on the windows so we wouldn't fall out. You live *there*? The way she said it made me feel like nothing. There. I lived *there*. I nodded.

I knew then I had to have a house. A real house. One I could point to. But this isn't it. The house on Mango Street isn't it. For the time being, Mama says. Temporary, says Papa. But I know how those things go.

